

**CLAIMS**

1. Hatch with dispensing piston for ice cream making machines, characterized in that it comprises at least one cylindrical seat (7) having a vertical axis communicating by means of a radial duct (4,5) with the freezing cylinder (1) and housing, in a manner rotatable about its axis, a cylindrical sleeve (18) provided with a radial hole (20) and with operating means (22) for aligning in a first position said hole (20) with the outlet of the radial duct (4,5) connected to the freezing cylinder (1), while in a second position this cylindrical sleeve (18) closes off the connection with the freezing cylinder (1), said sleeve having mounted axially slidably inside it a dispensing piston (23), the bottom of said second cylindrical seat (7) being closed off by a base element (27) provided with a plurality of openings (30) suitably shaped for extruding the ice cream.
2. Hatch according to Claim 1, with the dual possibility of choosing the form of ice cream dispensed, characterized in that this hatch may be in the form of a double hatch, having two parallel cylindrical seats (6,7) with vertical axes each receiving a piston element (12,23), said cylindrical seats being both connected by means of two radial ducts (8,9) to the same freezing cylinder (1), one of said seats receiving a normal dispensing piston (12) and being closed at the bottom by a normal base plate provided with a fretted or flower-shaped hole (10), while the other seat houses, in a manner rotatable about its axis, a cylindrical sleeve (18) provided with a radial hole (20) and with operating means (22) for aligning in a first position said hole (20) with the outlet of the radial duct (4,5) connected to the freezing cylinder (1), while in a second position this cylindrical sleeve (18) closes off the connection with the freezing cylinder (1), a dispensing piston (23) being mounted in an axially slidable manner inside said sleeve (18), the bottom of said cylindrical seat (7) being provided with a base element (27) provided with a plurality of openings (30) which are suitably shaped for extruding the ice cream.
3. Hatch according to the preceding claims, in which the bottom of the said piston (23) co-operating with said ice cream extrusion element (27) is provided with projections (130) complementing the holes (30) of the said extrusion element (27).

4. Hatch according to the preceding claims, characterized in that means (25,26) are provided for exact positioning of said piston (23) inside its cylindrical seat in said sleeve (18) in such a way that the said projections (130) on the bottom of the piston (23) are exactly aligned with the holes (30) in the complementary extrusion element (27).

5. Hatch according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that said pistons (12,23) may be operated both manually and mechanically or in a mixed manual/mechanical manner.

6. Hatch according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the ice cream dispensing side of said hatch may be associated with means for dispensing a dressing syrup.

7. Hatch according to any one of the preceding claims, suitable for mounting on a single-cylinder machine.

8. Hatch according to any one of the preceding Claims 1 to 6, suitable for mounting on a machine with several freezing cylinders and in particular a twin-cylinder machine.

9. Hatch according to Claim 8, suitable for mounting also at the mixing outlet of the hatch of a twin-cylinder machine